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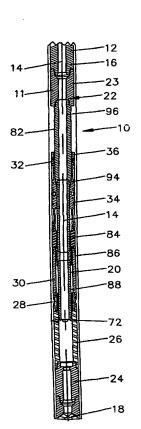
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(54) Title: DOWNHOLE DRILL STRING HAVING A COLLAPSIBLE SUBASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for allowing a downhole drill string to be stuck at one location and continue to rotate above the stuck section. The apparatus provides a method for collapsing the stuck subassembly by reducing its outside diameter. Simultaneous with the subassembly collapse, a jarring action is initiated from within the drill string to further loosen the stuck sections. At the same time drilling fluid inside the string is allowed to circulate outside the string through a circulation sub. The fluid is forced around the stuck subassembly further increasing the likelihood that the subassembly will be freed.



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1PC 7 E21B31/00 E21B31/03 E21B17/10 E21B17/05 E21B31/107 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 E21B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category ^c 6 - 10Υ US 6 082 457 A (VAN BUREN MARKUS ANTONIUS ET AL) 4 July 2000 (2000-07-04) column 1, line 1 -column 2, line 28; figure 1 6 - 10US 4 960 173 A (COGNEVICH MICHAEL L ET Y AL) 2 October 1990 (1990-10-02) column 2, line 49 - line 61; figures 1,2 9 Y US 3 804 186 A (SCHOEFFLER W) 16 April 1974 (1974-04-16) column 4, line 22 - line 40; figure 1 US 4 573 536 A (LAWRENCE JAMES D) 1,6 A 4 March 1986 (1986-03-04) See abstract figure 1 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. X Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 17/10/2003 10 October 2003 Name and malling address of the ISA Authorized.officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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